

In September 1900, Bishop Michael J. Hoban officiated at the dedication of Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church on Grove Street in Edwardsville. Until the winter of 1901, the pastor of St. Stephen's Church in Plymouth also served as their pastor, when the arrival of Father John Jedlicka gave the parishioners of Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church their own clergyman.

Father Jedlicka oversaw several modifications to the church structure, including the tower and much of the interior, at a cost of \$1,400, quite a sum at the time. During his tenure, the parish also purchased land on Pringle Hill for a cemetery and started a four-classroom school in the church basement.

In 1904, Father Jedlicka was replaced by a newly ordained priest, who had to leave because he could not find a place to live. The parishioners borrowed \$3,000 to build a rectory, which was completed in 1905, and Father Jedlicka returned. That building still stands today on the corner of Grove and Hurbane streets in Edwardsville.

The following year, the parish tragically lost its church building, dedicated only six years before, in a fire. The current church on Zerbey Avenue was built in 1907 to replace it.

In 1921, Father Jedlicka died and was replaced by Father Edward Bellas, who served the parish for about eight years. He in turn was replaced by Father Stephen Gurcik, who was pastor until 1943, guiding the parish during the difficult years of the Great Depression. Many events were held to raise money, notably parish picnics, and finances began to improve in the 1940s. Father Gurcik loved the outdoors and often took the altar servers camping. During his tenure, the parish also sponsored a baseball team.

Father Joseph Podskoch served as pastor from 1943 until his death in 1949. He held bingo and other events to reduce the church's still-considerable debt. He was well-known in Edwardsville and would often walk up and down the streets to meet the people.

Father Michael Harvan, who became pastor in 1949, instituted a "day's wage" collection. During his pastorate, a few parishioners made sizable donations to the parish, and many improvements to the church were made. It also became possible to pay all existing debts. While pastor at Sts. Cyril and Methodius, Father Harvan was honored by becoming a Monsignor, or Prelate of Honor to the Pope. Upon his retirement in 1985, he left the parish with a sizable amount in its savings account.

In 1985, Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church was joined with St. Anthony of Padua Church in Larksville, and both shared the same pastor, Father Joseph Ziobro. Since Father Ziobro lived at St. Anthony's Rectory, the one at St. Cyril and Methodius was sold at that time. Father Ziobro worked hard to bring the two churches together as one parish family.

In 1990, Father Ziobro was transferred and Father Andrew Strish became pastor of the two churches until he was transferred in 1996. Father Bernard Evanofski then became pastor of the two churches. Upon his arrival, it was obvious that Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church was in need of a new roof and other repairs. Through a capital fund campaign and the generosity of the parishioners, all needed repairs were made, including a new roof.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Sts. Cyril and Methodius church continue to be active and strongly supportive of all parish functions as

they celebrate both the centennial of the church's founding and the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000. I salute them on the occasion of this milestone anniversary, and I am pleased to call their faith and service to the attention of the House of Representatives.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG RELIEF

HON. RUBEN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2000

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, time is running out. We are coming down the home stretch of the 106th Congress. Shortly we will be returning home to our respective congressional districts to report to our constituents what we have accomplished these past 2 years. I would like to be able to say that we've done something about the sky rocketing prices of prescription drugs.

This has certainly been a priority for me. This has defiantly been a priority for Democrats. Sadly, there are some for whom this is not a priority—and just who is going to pay the price for this indifference. The answer is America's seniors. The one issue that I have heard more about from senior citizens as well as their sons and daughters, these past 2 years than any other, is the outrageous cost of prescription drugs. I can't even begin to count the number of letters I have received, the phone calls I have had and the people that have come up to me when I am at home in my district, all imploring me to pass prescription drug legislation now.

The voices of seniors must be heard—Now. I urge my colleagues in the House—lets pass a prescription drug bill before we adjourn in October of this congress. The Nation's seniors deserve more than rhetoric—they deserve action.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES E. ROGAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2000

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on the afternoon and evening of September 26, 2000 and, therefore, was unable to attend any votes held during the period. Had I been present, I would have voted in the affirmative on every recorded vote. These votes include: H.R. 1248—the Violence Against Women Act; H.R. 2572—the Apollo Exploration Award Act; H.R. 5117—the Missing Children Tax Fairness Act; H.J. Res. 109—making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001; H.R. 5175—the Small Business Liability Relief Act; and H.R. 4292—the Born Alive Infants Protection Act.

PEACE THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, like all Members of this body I share the hope that Israel and

its neighbors—including the Palestinians—will negotiate a comprehensive and lasting peace.

In fact, recent news suggests that Palestinian and Israeli negotiators may soon resume their formal discussions.

Does America have a role to play in helping the two sides reach a final settlement?

Of course we do.

As President Clinton has shown us—time and again—American leadership makes the difference.

But, as any mediator will tell you, there is a difference between leading—and interfering.

The measure before us is interfering.

It will have only one effect: to polarize a complex situation even further, and undermine America's ability to help the two sides come together.

That doesn't help the Israelis.

That doesn't help the Palestinians.

And it certainly doesn't help the cause of peace.

In his recent speech before the United Nations, Prime Minister Barak said: "We are standing at the Rubicon and neither of us can cross it alone."

Mr. Speaker, I for one believe America has to be prepared to cross that Rubicon with them.

But being a partner in helping to win peace, does not give us the authority to dictate its terms.

ANTI-SEMITIC NEWSPAPER ARTICLE IN RUSSIA

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2000

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the fall of the Soviet Union saw the emergence of open anti-Semitism in Russia. While the government was abandoning its official policy of discrimination against Jews, anti-Semitism was being resurrected by certain political and social elements within Russian society, or "privatized," as one observer put it.

Not that anti-Semitism is a distinctly Russian phenomenon. Our own history has shown that at times of economic difficulties or societal challenge extremist figures and groups peddling anti-Semitic or other hate philosophies may arise within our midst.

Nevertheless, I was surprised and disturbed when the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews called my attention to a recent article in the Russian newspaper *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* entitled "Strategy of 'Globalization Leadership' For Russia. First Priority Indirect Strategic Actions To Ensure National Security." This article was penned by a Mr. Alexandr Ignatov, the director of a think tank under the jurisdiction of the Presidential Administration of Russia. In his lengthy opus, the author asserts that the activities of a "world government" are a key influence on globalization processes, and that a "Hasidic-paramasonic group" has usurped power within this world government. Moreover, this "Hasidic-paramasonic group" has allegedly decided that Russia should be excluded from leadership in the globalization process and be viewed exclusively as a source of raw materials for the "New World Order."

This "usurpation of power in the world government by the Hasidic-paramasonic group requires immediate correction," says Mr.